

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A system for printing and treating a recording element comprising:

a printhead for dispensing ~~a liquid comprising~~ a carrier onto a recording element;

a carrier removal station ~~positioned downstream from the printhead, the carrier removal station being adapted to remove a predetermined percentage of carrier present in the recording element;~~ and

a converting station ~~positioned downstream from the carrier removal station, wherein the converting station is adapted to increase a durability characteristic of the recording element;~~

~~wherein the printhead is located in a first unit, and the carrier removal station and the converting station are located in a second unit, the first unit being distinct from the second unit~~

wherein the converting station provides support for the recording element to transition from one portion of a travel path for the recording element to another portion of the travel path which overlaps the one portion of the travel path.

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (cancelled)

5. (cancelled)

6. (cancelled)

7. (previously presented) A system for printing and treating a recording element comprising:

a printhead for dispensing a liquid comprising a carrier onto a recording element;

a carrier removal station positioned downstream from the printhead, the carrier removal station being adapted to remove a predetermined percentage of carrier present in the recording element; and

a converting station positioned downstream from the carrier removal station, wherein the converting station is adapted to increase a durability characteristic of the recording element;

wherein the converting station provides support for the recording element to transition from one portion of a travel path for the recording element to another portion of the travel path which overlaps the one portion of the travel path.

8. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 7, wherein the printhead, the carrier removal station, and the converting station are located on the one portion of the travel path.

9. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 7, wherein the converting station includes a roller that provides the support for the recording element to transition from the one portion of the travel path to the other portion of the travel path which overlaps the one portion of the travel path.

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) A recording element printing and treating method comprising:

printing ~~a liquid comprising~~ a carrier onto a recording element;

removing ~~an predetermined percentage amount~~ of carrier present in the recording element; and

increasing a durability characteristic of the recording element at a converting station, ~~wherein the step of removing the predetermined percentage of carrier is distinct relative to the step of increasing the durability characteristic of the recording element;~~

~~wherein the printhead is located in a first unit, and the carrier removal station and the converting station are located in a second unit, the first unit being distinct from the second unit~~

wherein the converting station provides support for the recording element to transition from one portion of a travel path for the recording element to another portion of the travel path which overlaps the one portion of the travel path.

18. (previously presented) A recording element printing and treating method comprising:

printing a liquid comprising a carrier onto a recording element;

removing a predetermined percentage of carrier present in the recording element at a carrier removal station; and

increasing a durability characteristic of the recording element at a converting station,

wherein the converting station provides support for the recording element to transition from one portion of a travel path for the recording element to another portion of the travel path which overlaps the one portion of the travel path.

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

21. (cancelled)

22. (cancelled)

23. (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) The method according to Claim 178, wherein increasing the durability characteristic of the recording element includes applying pressure to the recording element.

25. (cancelled)